

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-9 (Canceled).

10. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
- a) a compound that is a serine palmitoyltransferase (~~SPT~~) inhibitor; and
 - b) a second compound useful for the treatment of atherosclerosis or dyslipidemia.

Claims 11-15 (Canceled).

16. (New) A method of lowering plasma lipids comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a serine palmitoyltransferase inhibitor to a mammal in need thereof.
17. (New) A method for elevating high density lipoprotein particles comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a serine palmitoyltransferase inhibitor to a mammal in need thereof.
18. (New) A method for lowering very low density lipoprotein particles and low density lipoprotein particles comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a serine palmitoyltransferase inhibitor to a mammal in need thereof.
19. (New) A method for lowering plasma triglycerides particles comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a serine palmitoyltransferase inhibitor to a mammal in need thereof.
20. (New) A method for lowering serum levels of total cholesterol comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a serine palmitoyltransferase inhibitor to a mammal in need thereof.
21. (New) A method for improving plasma lipid profile comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a serine palmitoyltransferase inhibitor to a mammal in need thereof.

22. (New) A method for inhibiting plaque formation comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a serine palmitoyltransferase inhibitor to a mammal in need thereof.

23. (New) A method of reducing the size of plaque comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a serine palmitoyltransferase inhibitor to a mammal in need thereof.

24. (New) A method of reducing the size of an atherosclerotic lesion comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a serine palmitoyltransferase inhibitor to a mammal in need thereof.

25. (New) A method of reducing the size of a macrophage foam cell comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a serine palmitoyltransferase inhibitor to a mammal in need thereof.

26. (New) A method for preventing plaque rupture comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a serine palmitoyltransferase inhibitor to a mammal in need thereof.

27. (New) A method for treating dyslipidemia which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a serine palmitoyltransferase inhibitor to a mammal in need thereof.

28. (New) A method for treating atherosclerosis which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a serine palmitoyltransferase inhibitor to a mammal in need thereof.

29. (New) A method for treating diabetes which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a serine palmitoyltransferase inhibitor to a mammal in need thereof.

30. (New) A method for treating metabolic syndrome which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a serine palmitoyltransferase inhibitor to a mammal in need thereof.
31. (New) The method as recited in claims 16 - 31, in which the serine palmitoyltransferase inhibitor is myriocin.
32. (New) The composition of claim 10 wherein the second compound is an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor, an HMG-CoA synthase inhibitor, an HMG-CoA reductase gene expression inhibitor, an HMG-CoA synthase gene expression inhibitor, a CETP inhibitor, a bile acid sequestrant, a cholesterol absorption inhibitor, a cholesterol biosynthesis inhibitor, a squalene synthetase inhibitor, a fibrate, niacin, a combination of niacin and lovastatin or an antioxidant.
33. (New) The composition of claim 32 wherein the second compound is an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor.
34. (New) The composition of claim 33 wherein the second compound is lovastatin, simvastatin, pravastatin, fluvastatin, atorvastatin, rivastatin, rosuvastatin or pitavastatin.
35. (New) The composition of claim 32 wherein the second compound is a CETP inhibitor.
36. (New) The composition of claim 10 wherein the serine palmitoyltransferase inhibitor is myriocin.
37. (New) A kit that comprises:
- a) a serine palmitoyltransferase inhibitor and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, vehicle or diluent in a first unit dosage form;
 - b) a second compound that is useful for the treatment of atherosclerosis or dyslipidemia and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, vehicle or diluent in a second unit dosage form; and
 - c) a means for containing the first and second unit dosage forms.

38. (New) The kit of claim 37 wherein the second compound is an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor, an HMG-CoA synthase inhibitor, an HMG-CoA reductase gene expression inhibitor, an HMG-CoA synthase gene expression inhibitor, a CETP inhibitor, a bile acid sequestrant, a cholesterol absorption inhibitor, a cholesterol biosynthesis inhibitor, a squalene synthetase inhibitor, a fibrate, niacin, a combination of niacin and lovastatin or an antioxidant.
39. (New) The kit of claim 38 wherein the second compound is an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor.
40. (New) The kit of claim 39 wherein the second compound is lovastatin, simvastatin, pravastatin, fluvastatin, atorvastatin, rivastatin, rosuvastatin or pitavastatin.
41. (New) The kit of claim 38 wherein the second compound is a CETP inhibitor.
41. (New) The kit of claim 37 wherein the serine palmitoyltransferase inhibitor is myriocin.